

a1  
cont

wherein either said extracellular region is an extracellular region from RET or said intracellular region is an intracellular region of orphan C-RET receptor tyrosine kinase;

(b) contacting said cells with an antibody, wherein said antibody has specific binding affinity to said extracellular region; and

(c) monitoring an effect on said cells.

✓ Please cancel claims 2-5 and 9 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Please amend Claim 11 as follows:

11. (AMENDED) A method of identifying compounds that modulate the function of a receptor protein tyrosine kinase in cells, wherein said method comprises the following steps:

a2

(a) transfecting a nucleic acid vector into said cells, wherein said vector encodes a chimera comprising an extracellular region and an intracellular region, wherein said intracellular region is from said receptor tyrosine kinase,

wherein either said extracellular region is an extracellular region from RET or said intracellular region is an intracellular region of orphan C-RET receptor tyrosine kinase;

(b) contacting said cells with one or more compounds;

(c) contacting said cells with an antibody, wherein said antibody has specific binding affinity to said extracellular region; and

(d) monitoring an effect on said cells.

✓ Please cancel claims 12-15 and 19 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

#### REMARKS

Applicants hereby elect to prosecute, with traverse, as provided below, with respect to the claims as amended, the claims encompassed by Group III, claims 23-26, drawn to a method of